

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2606

February 5, 2021

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Majority Leader
United State Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Leader Schumer:

We believe in the value of every child. Each precious child should be honored by our nation and protected by our laws.

The Hyde Amendment is the law of the land, as has been so since 1976. The Hyde Amendment has enjoyed decades of bipartisan support, including from then-Senator Joe Biden, and has been signed into law by Democrat and Republican Presidents alike. We are deeply opposed to efforts to allow taxpayer funding of abortion on demand and eliminate this more than four-decade-old consensus. Instead, we urge you to allow the Senate to continue its long tradition of bipartisan cooperation in enacting annual appropriations, as well as other health-related spending, with longstanding pro-life protections intact.

Abortion is not health care; rather, it is a brutal procedure that destroys the life of an innocent unborn child. The Hyde Amendment reflects a consensus that millions of pro-life Americans who are profoundly opposed to abortion should not be coerced into paying for it or incentivizing it with their taxpayer dollars. A substantial majority of the American public agrees. A 2021 Marist poll found that nearly six in ten Americans, including even more than a third of those who identify as pro-choice, oppose the use of their taxpayer dollars to pay for abortions. Most importantly, the Hyde Amendment saves lives. Analysis by the Charlotte Lozier Institute estimates that over 2.4 million Americans owe their lives to the Hyde Amendment, and it routinely saves more than 60,000 lives every year.

In addition to preserving the Hyde Amendment's inclusion in the annual Labor, Health and Human Services Appropriations Act, it is equally important that the Senate maintain all other longstanding pro-life protections in Federal law. These include, but are not limited to, prohibitions on funding for abortion and abortion coverage for the Federal Employee Health Benefits Program, the Federal Bureau of Prisons, as well as foreign aid due to the Helms Amendment. Other longstanding pro-life provisions prevent the District of Columbia from funding elective abortions, prohibit the destruction of human embryos in federally funded research, prohibit funding for abortion-related lobbying overseas, as well as protect the conscience rights of Americans opposed to abortion.

We are united in our resolve to guard against any changes to Federal law that would unsettle nearly half a century of bipartisan consensus against taxpayer funding for abortion on demand, or otherwise threaten the lives of unborn children. Accordingly, we are committed to vote against the advancement of any legislation that would eliminate or weaken the Hyde Amendment or any other current-law pro-life protections, or otherwise undermine existing Federal pro-life policy.

Sincerely,



Steve Daines
United States Senator



Mitch McConnell
United States Senator



James Lankford
United States Senator



Roger Marshall, M.D.
United States Senator



Thom Tillis
United States Senator



Mike Lee
United States Senator



Cindy Hyde-Smith
United States Senator



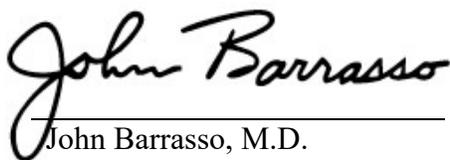
Cynthia M. Lummis
United States Senator



Ron Johnson
United States Senator



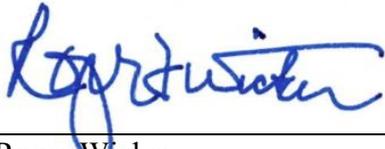
Kevin Cramer
United States Senator



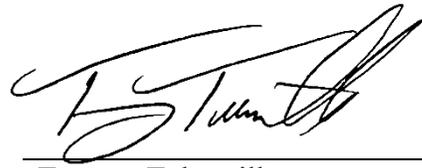
John Barrasso, M.D.
United States Senator



Bill Hagerty
United States Senator



Roger Wicker
United States Senator



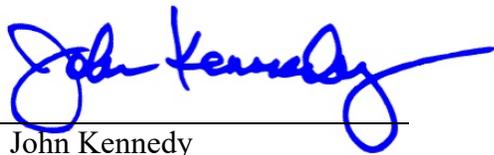
Tommy Tuberville
United States Senator



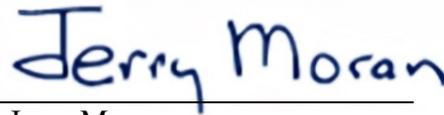
John Hoeven
United States Senator



Chuck Grassley
United States Senator



John Kennedy
United States Senator



Jerry Moran
United States Senator



Deb Fischer
United States Senator

Roy Blunt
United States Senator



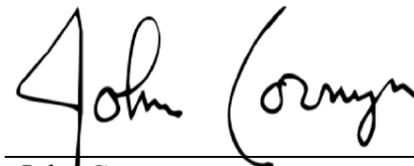
Marsha Blackburn
United States Senator



John Boozman
United States Senator



Joni K. Ernst
United States Senator



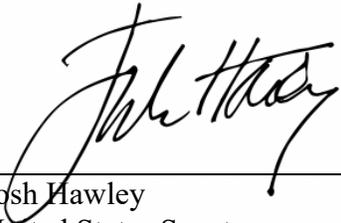
John Cornyn
United States Senator



Ted Cruz
United States Senator



Rick Scott
United States Senator



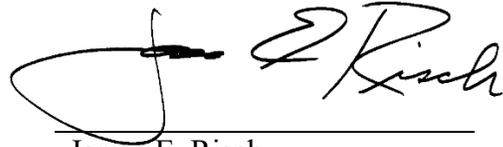
Josh Hawley
United States Senator



John Thune
United States Senator



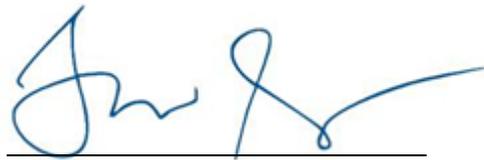
Tom Cotton
United States Senator



James E. Risch
United States Senator



Rob Portman
United States Senator



Tim Scott
United States Senator



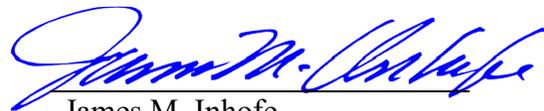
Todd Young
United States Senator



Mike Braun
United States Senator



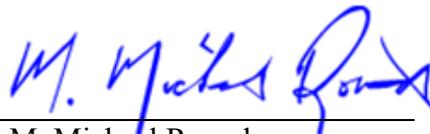
Marco Rubio
United States Senator



James M. Inhofe
United States Senator



Ben Sasse
United States Senator



M. Michael Rounds
United States Senator



Pat Toomey
United States Senator



Bill Cassidy, M.D.
United States Senator



Dan Sullivan
United States Senator



Richard Burr
United States Senator



Mike Crapo
United States Senator



Rand Paul
United States Senator



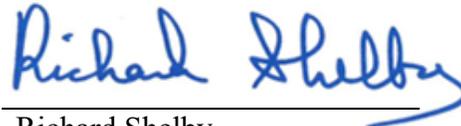
Lindsey Graham
United States Senator



Mitt Romney
United States Senator



Shelley Moore Capito
United States Senator



Richard Shelby
United States Senator

CC:

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the House

The Honorable Patrick Leahy, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Appropriations

The Honorable Patty Murray, Chairwoman of the Senate Committee on Health, Education,
Labor and Pensions

The Honorable Ron Wyden, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Finance

The Honorable Dick Durbin, Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary